

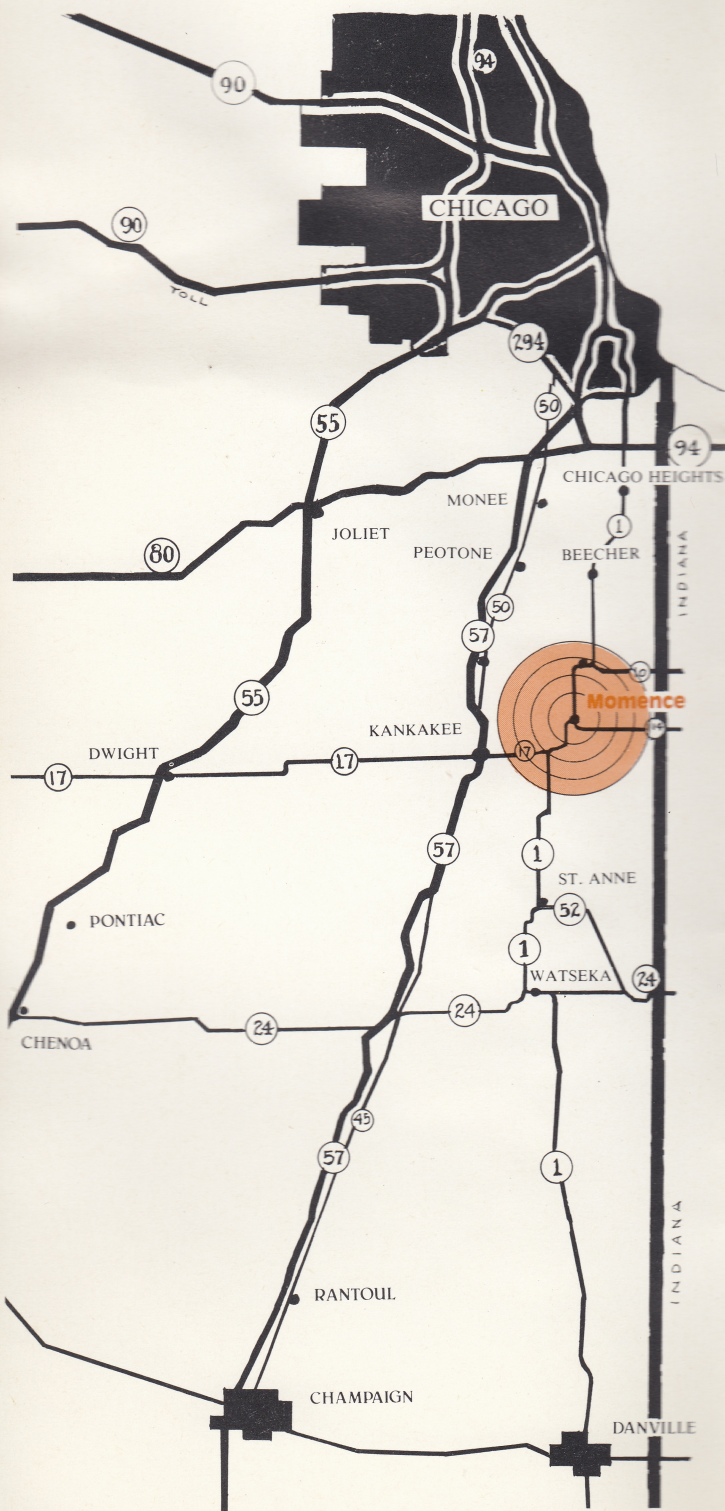
An Easy Place To Find



Momence, Illinois 1834-1984

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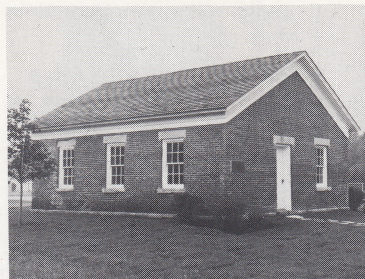
Here are the facts and figures...

and we hope you will review them carefully. To understand why we feel Momence is a good place to work and live, you've got to visit Momence. We enjoy sharing Momence with visitors who come from all parts of the Midwest to visit our shops, our Kankakee River and our Gladiolus Festival.

We'd like to show you how we've retained our small town charm in the midst of our growth.

We'd like to show you the people of Momence who still believe in hard work, discipline, and the importance of raising a family in a clean, wholesome environment.

We'd like to show you why Momence is a good place to live and a good place to work.

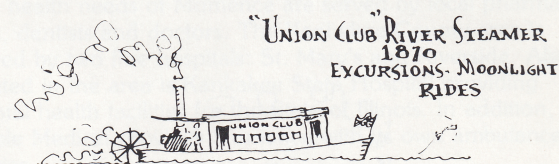


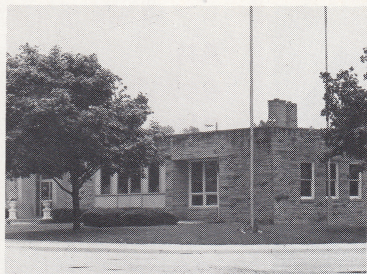
**An
established
place...**

Momence is the oldest town in Northeastern Illinois. The year 1984 marks the 150th year for the establishment of Momence as a town. While the rest of the state was fairly well settled by 1830, this part of Illinois was still wilderness — prairie, woodland and marsh. Hence the term "Border Town" was applied to the city — the "border" between civilization and wilderness; from the late 1600's when LaSalle and his men had ventured into the region until Gordon Hubbard, furtrader from Quebec, first came in 1928 to establish fur-trading posts.

In the course of the summer fur-buying trips from Fort Dearborn, Hubbard used a trail which led from the Fort as far south as Vincennes, Indiana. This trail was to see later influx of covered wagons and teams bringing settlers from Canada and the East to make the first settlement of Momence at the Upper Crossing on the Kankakee River. This trail was in 1830 made a state road, and even today it is commemorated by the fact that the end of it bears its name — "State Street" in Chicago. One old milestone remains at Momence — a small marker bearing the numbers "179" — indicating that it was 179 miles to Vincennes.

It is said the name of Momence was derived from the famous Pottawatomi Chief Momenza. The residents of the town enjoy the distinction of living and working in two townships. The Dixie Highway divides the town; on one side is Momence Township and the other is Ganeer Township from the name Je-Neir, an Indian squaw, wife of Momenza.





A good place ...

Our local government officials are a major reason why. They don't think of us as voters, they think of us as neighbors. It shows.

Our city council consists of an elected mayor and eight aldermen, two for each of the four wards. The mayor and councilmen each serve four year terms. They meet on the first and third Mondays of the month at City Hall located at 123 West River Street. They levy taxes, they determine policy, they pass ordinances and hire city personnel.

The Momence and Ganer Township Boards are responsible for the construction and maintenance of roads in their district except those incorporated in the city. The Township Assessor maintains tax map and up-to-date listings of property owners for tax revenue. The township trustee also provides general assistance to indigent citizens on a temporary basis.

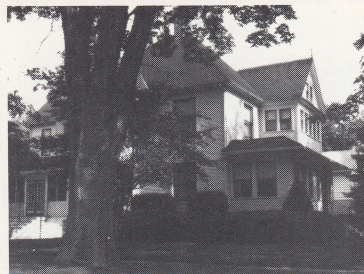
The citizens of Momence demand professional and efficient police and fire protection and we receive it. The Momence Fire Department is a well equipped force of 32 well-trained volunteers, made up of experienced firefighters and emergency Medical Technicians. The greater Momence Fire Protection District services an area of 92 square miles and a population of 12,000.

While the Momence Fire Department is a volunteer force with professional ability, our Police Department is made up of professional officers, protecting the peace and promoting justice. The police department provides community education programs and, thanks to their efforts, our crime rate is low. There are five full-time officers and one part-time.

The goal of all Momence officials and public safety personnel is to serve and protect their neighbors, to make Momence a better place to work, a safer place to live.



**GEE! R.R. EXCURSIONS
TO MOMENCE ISLAND
PARK - 1904**



A good place to live ...

There's the City of Momence, with quiet tree-lined streets and homes dating from the mid 1800's. Most of these homes have been restored to their original splendor... indeed, many have never looked so good.

There are several subdivisions in and surrounding Momence. If you are interested in apartments, Momence has many nice units available.

Momence has a population of approximately 3,394. The city is located on routes 1, 17, 114, in the eastern part of Kankakee County. The surrounding townships of Momence and Ganer provide an additional 10,000 people in the immediate area. The population in the entire Kankakee County is 103,700. The tax rate in the City of Momence is \$5.671 per \$100.00 assessed valuation.

Climate

The mean annual temperature for Momence is about 56°F. The average temperature during the winter months of December, January, and February ranges from a minimum of 21°F to a maximum of 36°F. The average temperature during the summer months of June, July and August ranges from a maximum of 84°F to a minimum of 63°F. The average annual rainfall for this area is 32.7 inches.

Transportation

The transportation needs of Momence are met by railroad and bus service. The O'Hare International Airport is located 70 miles from Momence and Midway Airport is 50 miles from Momence. The Kankakee Airport is within 15 miles and has lighted, surfaced runway 5,000 feet in length. Several trucking firms and the United Parcel Service make daily pickups and deliveries.

Health needs

The health needs of Momence are served by local pharmacists, dentists and doctors. The Kankakee County area is served by two fine hospitals: St. Mary's and Riverside. Also located in the area is Kankakee State Hospital providing mental health facilities for the State of Illinois. In addition, Maple Medical provides Momence with its own ambulance service.

Radio and TV

The greater Momence area is served by radio stations WKAN and WKAK, covering a 50-mile broadcast radius. In addition to these local stations, all Chicago radio and television programs can be received in the Momence area. Cable television provides local programming and a great variety of stations.

Momence 1834-1984

Dining

When dining, whether it be for a meal or quick good food there is something to please every palate. There are a number of food establishments to choose from... let taste be your guide.

Public utilities

Electricity for the greater Momence area is supplied by Commonwealth Edison Company. Natural Gas is supplied to the Momence area by Northern Illinois Gas Company. The telephone service is handled by Illinois Bell Company.

Sewage and water

Momence's ultra modern water system and pollution control center insures future progress we expect to obtain in industrial growth. Momence has an unlimited water supply for the city's four wells that supply storage tanks of 435,000-gallon capacity, with sufficient volume and pressure for industrial sprinkler systems. In line with the Federal Environmental Protection Agency, our control center has a capacity of 1.6 million M.G.D. which will accommodate all private and industrial use.

Post office

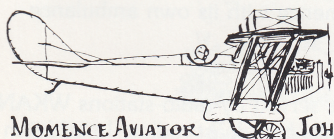
The U.S. Post Office, 202 E. Washington Street, Momence, Illinois, with revenues of nearly a million dollars, is a full-service post office. It employs 12 regular assigned employees and three relief employees.

Registration for Selective Service, Migratory Waterfowl Stamp sales, supplying Federal income tax forms, and depository for U.S. flags for veterans' burials are some of the non-mail service provided on a regular basis.

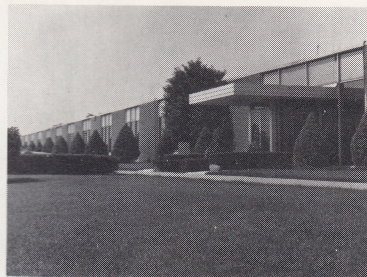
Incoming mail is received once daily at 6:30 a.m. Incoming mail is processed and in the lockboxes by 8:30 a.m. Mail is dispatched once daily at 5:10 p.m. weekdays and Saturdays and at 3:00 p.m. on Sundays and generally observed holidays.

Library

Edward Chipman Public Library was opened on January 7, 1913. The library is a member of the state supported Burr Oak Library System which gives access to an unlimited supply of books on a rotating basis, in addition to the fine selection already housed in the library. The library offers summer reading programs for children.



MOMENCE AVIATOR JOHN BROWN'S "JENNY" 1923-1934
CURTISS JN4-D - NOW CHICAGO MUSEUM
OF SCIENCE & INDUSTRY



**A
good place
to work...**

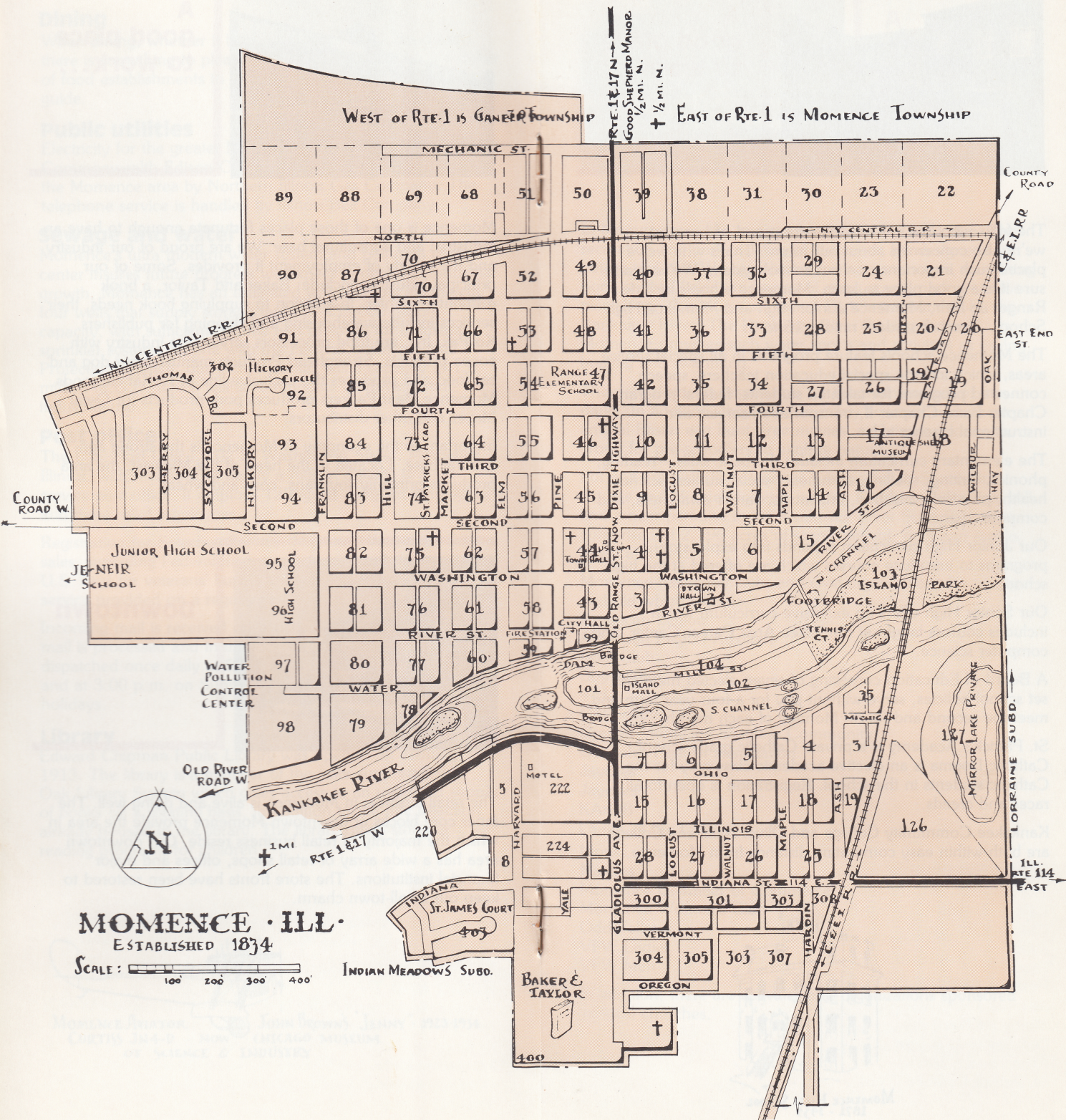
Momence is one of those places fortunate enough to have an industrial and agricultural base. We are proud of our industry and the variety of employment it provides. Some of our principal industries include: Baker and Taylor, a book distribution center. In addition to supplying book needs, their services include warehousing and shipping for publishers. Ko-Pak, Inc. are food processors serving the industry with cocoa products. Strongheart Products manufactures dog and cat food and produces the exclusive line of KitKat cat foods. Momence Meat Packers produces pork products for Oscar Mayer and other distributors.

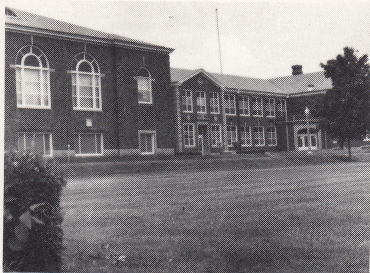
Important to the economy of Momence is the strong agricultural base. Located in the heart of the Midwest, the area produces primarily soybeans, corn and wheat.



Downtown

The retail business in Momence is alive and doing well. The inner core blocks of downtown Momence provide the area in which the majority of retail business reside. Our downtown area has a wide array of retail shops, offices and major financial institutions. The store fronts have been restored to keep our small-town charm.





**A
good place
to learn...**

The folks who live in Momence are proud of our past... we're also concerned about our future. That's why we've placed such importance on our school system. We've made sure it is a good place to learn. Momence schools include Range, Je-Neir, Momence Junior High and Momence High School. Teacher-student ratio is 16 to 1.

The Momence schools feature programs in all special service areas, which include special education teachers, speech connected programs for talented students, federal programs Chapter I and Chapter II, transportation service and instructional teacher aids.

The elementary curriculum includes the basic skills—reading, phonics, writing, spelling, arithmetic, social studies, science, health, physical education, art, music, career awareness, and computer usage.

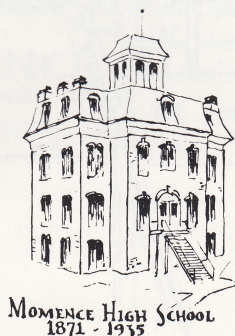
Our Junior High curriculum expands into exploratory programs to introduce courses which are offered at the high school.

Our Senior High offers an extensive curriculum which includes courses taught at Kankakee Area Career Center, and computer science.

A Board of Education consisting of seven elected members set school policies, serve without pay for a four-year term and meet the second and fourth Monday of each month.

St. Patrick's Academy is a private Catholic grade school. Catholic Dogma is an elective academic class only for the Catholic students in the school. Registration is open to all races and creeds.

Kankakee Community College and Olivet Nazarene College are both within easy commuting distance from Momence.



**A
good place
to play...**

In Momence we like to work hard. We play hard, too. The recreation and park facilities in Momence are designed for young and old. We can choose from tennis courts, swimming pool, softball fields, and acres of open grassy park areas for picnicking. The Momence Island Park is surrounded by the Kankakee River. The Kankakee River flowing through Momence provides such water sports and activities as fishing, boating and swimming.

The park district is responsible for the maintenance of the parks. In addition, they provide many activities such as an annual Easter egg hunt, free movies, and tiny explorers, a group for pre-schoolers to explore nature.

For golf enthusiasts, Momence has the South Shore Golf Course and Minnie Monesse nearby. Outdoor enthusiasts will find a near paradise in the Kankakee River State Park. It is comprised of 2,196 acres of scenic delight, river and creeks, forest and fields.

Momence has many clubs and civic organizations for young and old which include:

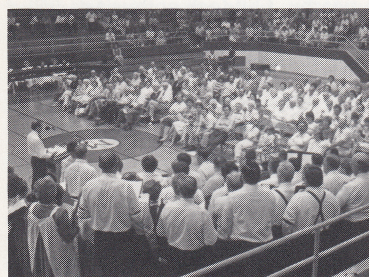
- American Legion
- American Legion Auxiliary
- Boat Club
- Boy Scouts
- 4-H
- Girl Scouts
- Greater Momence Business Community
- Gladiolus Festival Association
- Jaycees
- Jayettes
- KArOB
- Ladies of the Lions
- Lions
- Masons
- Momence Chamber of Commerce
- Momence Women's Club
- Odd Fellows
- VFW Ladies
- VFW Men

In addition, there are activities and organizations sponsored by local churches.



Gladiolus Festival

The Gladiolus Festival is an annual event which has taken place since 1938. The festival is a 3-day event taking place in the month of August, attracting participants and spectators from throughout the United States. The festival was originated as a salute to the gladiolus growing industry in this area. Highlights from the festival include a spectacular flower show featuring entries from amateur and professional growers, an antique auto show featuring 300 restored cars, flea market and three parades. The schedule includes a Drum and Bugle Corps competition which is the oldest continuous competition in the country, drawing entrants from all over the United States and Canada.



A good place to worship...

Within Momence and the immediate vicinity, we have churches of every major denomination. Like the town itself, our local churches are flourishing. The church bells ring on Sunday morning and a mixture of local farmers, old Momence families and the new Momence residents fill the pews. We take advantage of the social activities our churches sponsor and we support the charitable efforts.

The churches in our town include:

- Calvary Baptist
- Christian Reformed
- Episcopal Church
- First Baptist
- First United Methodist
- Jehovah's Witnesses
- Momence Nazarene
- Our Savior Lutheran
- Pentecostal Church
- St. Patrick Catholic Church

Business & Service Directory

Accountants

Robert J. Montague, CPA
Ray Simpson, CPA

Ambulance Service

Maple Medical Ambulance

Antiques

Cal-Jean Shop
Parish Antiques

Apparel, Men

Dumontelle's Men &
Boys' Shop
Encore Clothing

Apparel, Women

Encore Clothing
Marsha's Dress Shop

Attorneys

Elliott and McClure
Mary Parish Nutting
Tina M. Olton
Donald Zeglis

Auction Service

Steven Hunt

Automobiles

Case Motor Sales
H&G Motor Sales
Reising Motor Sales
Tedford Brothers Sales

Auto Parts

Lang Auto Parts
Momence Auto Parts

Automobile Repair & Body Work

Baker Auto Body
Momence Automotive

Bait Shops

Frank's Bait Shop
Jim's Bait & Tackle

Bakery

Barthel's Bakery
Cotter's Bakery

Barber Shop

Dave's Barber Shop
LeMotte's Barber Shop

Bicycles

Dick's Cyclery

Boat Sales

Bruckman Boat Sales
Jet Boat Specialists
Marine Headquarters

Book Distributors

Baker and Taylor

Books & Newspapers

Momence News Agency
Momence Progress Reporter

Bowling

Red Cedar Lanes

Building Material & Parts

Edmund Allen Lumber Co.
Burnett Painting Service
Dixie Lumber Co.
Orr Lumber Co.
Prairie's Decorating Service
Vulcan Materials

Bus

Redskin Motor Coach

Cable TV

Momence Community
Cablevision

Camping

Lake Alexander Camping
& Trailers

Candles

May-Lan Candles

Car Wash

Momence Sof-Spray Carwash

Cleaners

Momence Cleaners

Construction

D.D. Construction
Don Kiger
Engels Carpentry Service
G&J Construction
Gene Miller Construction

Dentists

Peter Ching, DDS
William Vandrunen, DDS

Dime Store

Ben Franklin Store

Drug Store

Jensen Rexall Drug Store
Wagner Drugs

Electricians

Delta Electric
Sherwood Electric

Excavating & Trucking

Gilbert's Excavating &
Septic Tanks
DeBouck Trucking &
Excavating

Farming & Seed

Agri Search, Inc.
Customize
Custom Farm Seed
West Feed Store

Financial Institutions

Eastern Illinois Trust
& Savings
Kankakee Federal Savings
& Loan
Momence Federal Savings
& Loan
Parish Bank & Trust

Flea Markets

Bargain City
P&V Flea Market

Florists

Momence Greenhouse
Thought Shoppe Florist

Funeral Homes

Cotter Funeral Home
Ruge Funeral Home

Furniture

Mac's New & Used Furniture
Phelps Furniture Stripping

Gas

Momence Bottled

Gas Stations &

Car Repair

Bob's Standard
Cardosi Oil
Checker Oil Co.
Distillery
Jim's Texaco
John's Towing Service
Union 76

Gifts & Cards

Hoosegow
Jensen's Drug Store

Golf Course

South Shore Golf Course

Grain & Fertilizer

Elwood Line Grain &
Fertilizer
Orr Lumber & Grain Co.

Greenhouses

Knowles Plants
Momence Greenhouse

Grocery Stores

Momence Finer Foods
Sadler's Grocery
Spieth's Market

Guns & Ammunition

Vincennes Trail Arms

Gutters

Quality Seamless Gutters

Hardware

Astle's Hardware

Horse Ranch

Bertrand's Horse Ranch

Industrial Supply

Complete Industrial Supply

Infant Wear

Cell Two in the Hoosegow

Insulation

Witte Insulating

Insurance

Bukowski Insurance
Chuck Mazur Insurance
John Parish Insurance
Ross Insurance
Schenk Insurance

Jewelry

Cell Two in the Hoosegow

Karate

American Karate Assoc.
Fire Dragon Studio of Karate

Kennel

Topono Kennels

Laundromat

Fred's Laundromat
Speed-Wash

Lawn Mowers

Don's Saw & Lawn
Mower Shop

Liquor Store

The Distillery
G&R Liquor

Loans

Personal Finance Co.

Mall

River Street Mall

Manufacturers

D&J Machine Shop
Douglas Net Co.
Gemini Steel
Ko-Pak, Inc.
Mackin Corp.
Metz Manufacturing
Strongheart Products

Meat Packers

Momence Meat Packing Co.
Oscar Mayer

Motel

Stonecrest Motel

Nursery

Benn's Tree & Shrub Service
H&E Sod Nursery
Jo-Ann Nursery
Siwicki Evergreen Nursery

Nursing Home

Momence Terrace
Nursing Home

Pallets

Momence Pallet Corp.

Petroleum Products

Bloomquist Oil Co.
JK&L Oil Co.

Photography

Aisha Photography
Bruce O'Cull

Physicians

Dr. Norberto Ortiz, MD
Dr. Enoch Prasad, MD

Pictures & Frames

Anderson Frames
Geppetto's Workshop

Plumbing & Heating

Blanke Plumbing & Heating
Burnett Plumbing & Heating
Plein Plumbing & Heating
Ron's Plumbing & Heating

Podiatrist

Bruce W. Smit

Printing

Momence Progress Reporter

Produce

Momence Produce

Railroad

Chicago and Eastern
Illinois RR Co.
Conrail Tower

Real Estate

Gaylord's Realty
Ross Real Estate
Sharkey's Real Estate

Repair

Simpson's General Repair

Restaurants

Chef's Inn
Dionne's French Country
Restaurant
Dixie Drive-In
Downtown Restaurant
Gathering Place
Helen's Pizza
MacDonald's Restaurant
Pat's Breakfast Nook
Redskin Drive-In
TNT Restaurant

Salvage & Scrap

American Auto & Scrap
Recycling

Sanitation & Disposal

Apollo Disposal

Shoe Repair

Arthur's Shoe Repair

Sporting Goods & Equipment

Bordertown Sporting
Goods & Video

Stereo - Radio - Television

A-1 TV Sales & Repair
Zimmerman Electronics

Taverns

Glorydale Resort
Janal's Country Inn
Muggs-n-Sudds
Richard's Tap
State Line Inn
TNT

Tax Service

H&R Block

Taxidermy

Kelley's Taxidermy

Tools

Momence Tool Rental

Tractor Sales

Robert Wille, Inc.

Trailer & Mobile Homes

George Duguay

Travel

Momence Travel Service

Trucking

H&R Jacobsen

Momence Truck Service

Veterinarian

Dr. Metz, DVM

Video Arcade

The In-Spot

Video Tapes

Bordertown Sports Equip.

& Video

Spieth's

Wallpaper & Decorating

Prairie Decorating Service

Waterproofing

Williams Waterproofing
Service

Welding

River Welding



A special thanks to the following financial contributors
who made this brochure possible:

City of Momence

Chamber of Commerce

Ganeer Township

Gladiolus Festival Association

Momence Township

Park District

School District

St. Patrick's Academy

All photos by Bruce O'Cull

Maps and line drawings by Hugh W. Butterfield





Momence, Illinois 1834